Standard documentation
Meta information
(Definitions, explanations, methods, quality)

on the

Basic Survey of Areas under Vine 2009

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Executive Summary

The aim of the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine, which is currently conducted every 10 years on a defined reporting date, is to obtain up-to-date information about the area under vine and the structural setup of winegrowing (e.g. number of holdings, breakdown of areas under vine by winegrowing region, varieties of grape etc.) as part of the Austrian agriculture and forestry sector and its comparability with other EU member states (MS). This information is also required in order to investigate the causes and background of structural change in this segment and subsequently to draw specific conclusions for the future. This data also forms an important basis for present and future decision-making in the agricultural sphere at national and international level. Furthermore, the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine supplies important basic data for the Economic Accounts for Agriculture and supply balance sheets.

The importance of Austrian winegrowing is evidenced, for example, by the fact that in 2008\(^1\) a total of EUR 521 million (17% of the value of all crop production) was earned by winegrowing. All holdings that reported areas under vine, irrespective of whether agriculture was practised as a main or secondary activity, were included in the figures.

In Austria winegrowing is primarily concentrated in the four Bundesländer (federal provinces) of Burgenland, Lower Austria, Styria and Vienna.

Therefore the viticulture cadastres (land registers) for these winegrowing provinces form the most important source of data from which the necessary information in terms of area and structure can be obtained. Cadastral data for Carinthia was also available for the first time for the 2009 survey. The basis for the setting up, management and maintenance of the viticulture cadastre is the federal province's own winegrowing laws. Since Austria has been assigned a precisely defined allocation of planting rights within the European organisation of the market in wine, any commencement, change or discontinuation of winegrowing activities must be officially notified. These notifications are shown in the viticulture cadastres for the relevant federal province. It can therefore be assumed that all areas under vine are included in the viticulture cadastres. Checking the correctness and completeness of the content of the viticulture cadastres is the responsibility of the relevant provincial governments. In the case of recognised viticulture nurseries\(^2\)), which account only for a small percentage of the overall area, data from the Chambers of Agriculture is used for Lower Austria and Burgenland and data from the Agricultural Testing Centre is used for Styria. In the other federal provinces there are no viticulture nurseries (recognised areas). Overall, it can be assumed that around 99% of the area under vine in Austria is included in the viticulture cadastres and can therefore be analysed as secondary statistics. However, since the EU regulation, and therefore also the national regulation, stipulate a complete recording of the areas under vine, it is also necessary to collect the data in the other federal provinces. Since there were only 82 such holdings, the data was collected by means of a survey form, which was sent to the holdings by post.

The present Basic Survey of Areas under Vine is the second time (first survey in 1999) the survey has been conducted in this format whereby the majority of respondents did not have to respond directly as information based on administrative data was used.

Wine data also has to be reported in other statistical surveys (e.g. the Farm Structure Survey) and in subsidy applications (IACS) to Agrarmarkt Austria. However, because of the different objectives and definitions, these are only comparable to a limited extent.

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\(^1\) At the time of publication of the report "Winegrowing in Austria 2009" and of this report, the final production value for wine in 2009 was not available.

\(^2\) Viticulture nurseries are solely involved in vegetative propagation of vines (no grape production).
Basic Survey of Areas under Vine 2009

Fig. 1: Flowchart showing the flow of data
### Basic Survey of Areas under Vine 2009 – important elements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main purpose of the statistics</th>
<th>Recording of areas under vine and the structure of winegrowing in Austria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observed unit / reporting unit / presentation unit</td>
<td>Approx. 20,200 winegrowing holdings in Austria</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Type of statistics | Full survey  
Secondary statistics: viticulture cadastres (Vienna, Burgenland, Lower Austria, Styria, Carinthia) – approx. 99% of all holdings recorded  
Primary statistics: other federal provinces |
| Data sources/survey techniques | Use of viticulture cadastres  
Primary statistical survey in the other federal provinces |
| Reference period or due day | 31 July 2009 |
| Periodicity | Every 10 years |
| Survey participation (primary statistics) | Mandatory |
| Legal basis | (EEC) No. 357/79: Council regulation on statistical surveys of areas under vines  
BGBl II No. 244/2009: Regulation issued by the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management relating to statistics on areas under vine in 2009 (Vineyard Survey Regulation 2009) |
| Regional breakdown | Publication by Statistics Austria down to municipal level |
| Availability of the results | At the latest t + 15 months |
| Other | The definition of holding in the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine extends beyond that in ÖNACE Section A³). Since all areas under vine are recorded, it is not important whether the holdings practise agriculture as a main or secondary activity. |

³) This section deals with the use of natural plant and animal resources and includes the following activities: cultivation of one-year-old and older plants, the operation of tree nurseries, livestock breeding and rearing, performance of agricultural services, hunting and forestry, logging, fishing and aquaculture.
1. General information

1.1 Objective and purpose, history

The aim of the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine is to gain current information about the structural setup and trends in winegrowing as part of the Austrian agriculture and forestry sectors, and to make a comparative analysis with information from other EU member states. This information is also required in order to investigate the causes and background of structural change in this sector and subsequently to draw specific conclusions for the future. This data therefore forms an important basis for present and future decision-making in the agricultural sphere at national and international level.

The first relevant surveys relating to winegrowing were conducted in Austria before the Second World War. Between 1946 and 1992 there were direct surveys of farmers at generally regular intervals of two years (in the 1970s and 1980s there were longer intervals of 3 to 5 years).

Up until 1957 areas under vine were recorded and analysed, broken down by areas producing fine wines and other areas and by their productivity. From 1959 the breakdown included methods of vine training, and from 1963 data was broken down by individual types of fine wine.

In 1999 the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine was conducted for the first time on the basis of the viticulture cadastres of the winegrowing federal provinces, supplemented by a primary statistical survey in the other federal provinces.

The Basic Survey of Areas under Vine was conducted up until 1992 solely on the basis of a national regulation. As a result of Austria’s entry into the European Union in 1995, various modifications were made to the 1992 survey to comply with the provisions in Council Regulation (EEC) No. 357/79.

1.2 Contracting entity

Ordered pursuant to Section 4 (1) of the Federal Statistics Act 2000 (see also section 1.4 Legal basis).

Responsible federal ministry: Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (BMLFUW).

1.3 Main users

- EU (Eurostat, DG Agri)
- Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (BMLFUW, also known as Ministry of Life)
- Austrian Chamber of Agriculture (LKÖ)
- Regional and local chambers of Agriculture
- Provincial government departments
- Agricultural training institutions
- Universities
- Local authorities
- Press
- Individual users (farmers, enterprises, etc.)
Internal users at Statistics Austria (STAT):
  o Harvest statistics, and subsequently
  o Supply balance sheets
  o Economic Accounts for Agriculture (EAA) and subsequently
  o National Accounts (NA)

1.4 Legal basis

EU legal basis:
(EEC) No. 357/79: Council Regulation on statistical surveys of areas under vine

National legal basis:
Federal Law Gazette BGBl II No. 244/2009 (available in German only): Regulation issued by the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management relating to statistics on areas under vine in 2009 (Vineyard Survey Regulation 2009)

Management of the viticulture cadastres is based on the relevant provincial laws governing winegrowing as last amended:
Lower Austria: Lower Austria Winegrowing Act 2002 (LGBl. 6150-0)
Styria: Styria Winegrowing Act 2004 (LGBl. No. 22/2004 Item 9)

2. Concepts and processing

2.1 Statistical concepts and methodology

2.1.1 Statistical purpose
Survey of the complete area under vine according to various categories (see point 2.1.10, "Variables surveyed and derived, indicators (including definitions)") at intervals of 10 years. The reporting date for each survey is the end of the wine year, i.e. 31 July.

2.1.2 Observed unit / reporting unit / presentation unit
The statistical units are those agricultural holdings\(^4\) that were managing planted areas under vine on the reporting date and were producing grapes, grape must, wine or propagation material normally intended for sale.

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\(^4\) Definition: Technical/economic unit with unified management in the economic area of the EU that carries out as a main or secondary occupation agricultural or forestry activities and/or maintains unused areas in good agricultural and environmental condition.
2.1.3 Data sources, coverage

The viticulture cadastre\(^5\) of the relevant federal province (Bundesland) served as the basic data source. Viticulture cadastres are kept by the provinces of Burgenland, Carinthia and Vienna independently. Lower Austria and Styria manage their cadastres in the central wine database of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management.

The remaining federal provinces – Upper Austria, Salzburg, Tyrol and Vorarlberg – have no (or no usable) viticulture cadastres; the survey was therefore conducted there using a survey form.

Although Upper Austria has had its own Winegrowing Act since 2007 (Upper Austria Winegrowing Act 2007), the viticulture cadastre was still under construction on the reporting date for the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine 2009 and could therefore not be used for this survey.

With the use of the viticulture cadastres and the primary statistical survey of data in the other federal provinces, a complete record of all winegrowing holdings can be assured.

In addition to the winegrowing areas, the areas used for agriculture also need to be surveyed as a total item. This item is covered by statistical data from Statistics Austria and administrative data from the BMLFUW (IACS data from AMA).

**Table 1: Data sources**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Data source</th>
<th>Federal province</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area under vine</td>
<td>Viticulture cadastre</td>
<td>Burgenland, Carinthia, Vienna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Central wine database of the BMLFUW</td>
<td>Lower Austria, Styria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents</td>
<td>Chambers of agriculture</td>
<td>Upper Austria, Salzburg, Tyrol, Vorarlberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viticulture nurseries</td>
<td>Provincial government (agricultural testing centre)</td>
<td>Styria</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^5\) Definition of areas according to viticulture cadastre:

"Vineyard": Area of land of over 500 m\(^2\) in size planted with at least one vine per 6 m\(^2\) for the production of wine or table grapes.

A planted area of less than 500 m\(^2\) where a winegrower manages more than one small plantation and together these add up to more than 500 m\(^2\).

A small "planted area" is a plantation of less than 500 m\(^2\), provided the grapes or wine are intended for personal consumption.

\(^6\) In the other federal provinces there are no viticulture nurseries (recognised areas).
2.1.4 Reporting unit and respondents

Natural and legal persons as well as registered partnerships under commercial law that operate a statistical unit in their own name are obliged to submit information.

The respondents in the primary statistical survey are obliged to enter their information, which should be complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge, in the survey documents and send them to Statistics Austria within four weeks of the reporting date. There is also the option of downloading the survey form from the Statistics Austria website. There is no provision for electronic responses on account of the small number of holdings.

For the overwhelming majority of statistical units, their data is taken from the relevant viticulture cadastres or from the central wine database of the BMLFUW, which is managed in the Computing and Technology Centre for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (LFRZ), and evaluated as secondary statistics. This data is therefore not subject to a statistical survey in the classic sense.

2.1.5 Survey format

Full survey

2.1.6 Survey techniques/data transmission

The vast majority of the data comes from administrative registers of the federal provinces (viticulture cadastres). In the case of Lower Austria and Styria, the data is made available to Statistics Austria in the form of special analyses by the LFRZ on behalf of BMLFUW for the preparation of the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine. Burgenland, Carinthia and Vienna transferred the data from their viticulture cadastres directly to Statistics Austria.

The data from the administrative registers was transferred electronically – in a format agreed between Statistics Austria and the relevant operator/owner of the register/administrative data (LFRZ or the provincial governments of Burgenland, Carinthia and Vienna) – and then further processed by Statistics Austria.

The survey documents, e.g.

- the survey form (1 double page) with pre-printed municipality number, holding number and name and address of the farmer,
- a pre-addressed return envelope (blank returns also have to be returned to Statistics Austria)
- an information sheet (explanations of the content of the survey form) and
- an accompanying letter (further information and explanations about the survey)

were sent by post to the winegrowing holdings in Upper Austria, Salzburg, Tyrol and Vorarlberg.

2.1.7 Survey questionnaire (including explanatory notes)

Survey form
Information sheet
Accompanying letter

2.1.8 Survey participation

Since no administrative data is available for Upper Austria, Salzburg, Tyrol and Vorarlberg, the holdings in these federal provinces are informed in writing about the primary statistical survey in terms of its purpose and objectives, data privacy issues, survey procedure and legal basis. Participation is compulsory for these units – provided they meet the survey criteria.
2.1.9 Variables surveyed and derived, indicators (including definitions)

According to EU regulation [EEC] No. 357/79 and national regulation BGBl II No. 244/2009, the basic survey covers all holdings that manage a planted area under vine and produce grapes, grape must, wine or propagation material normally intended for sale.

Based on the EU/national regulation, the following survey characteristics are relevant:

Details of areas in hectares/ares:

- Utilized agricultural area
- Planted vineyard
  - Area planted with wine grapes
    - Quality wines
  - Area intended solely for the production of propagation material for vines (viticulture nurseries)
- Area planted with wine grapes, broken down by type of grape
  - Red wine as defined in regulation BGBl. II No. 348/2000
  - White wine as defined in regulation BGBl. II No. 348/2000
  - Other types of grape broken down by colour of grape
    - Other types of red wine
    - "Gemischter Satz" (mixed culture) (red)
    - Other types of red wine
    - "Gemischter Satz" (mixed culture) (white)
- Area planted with wine grapes, broken down by age
  - Less than 3 years
  - 3 to 9 years
  - 10 to 19 years
  - 20 years or more
- Area planted with wine grapes, broken down by type of production and yield categories
  - For the production of quality wine
    - Yield category II

2.1.10 Classifications used

**NUTS**: For the regional classification of holdings and presentation of the results.

**ÖNACE classification**: The definition of holding in the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine extends beyond that in ÖNACE Section A⁷). Since all areas under vine are recorded, all holdings that meet the above criteria need to be included in the survey population, irrespective of whether agriculture is practised as a main or secondary activity.

2.1.11 Regional breakdown of the results

Austria; NUTS 2 (federal provinces); political districts; judicial districts; municipalities.

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⁷) This section deals with the use of natural plant and animal resources and includes the following activities: Cultivation of one-year-old and older plants, the operation of tree nurseries, livestock breeding and rearing, performance of agricultural services, hunting and forestry, logging, fishing and aquaculture.
2.2 Production of statistics, processing, quality assurance measures

2.2.1 Data capture

For the majority of the data (approx. 99%) there is no data capture in the primary statistical sense; instead an analysis of administrative data is performed.

The data from the administrative registers was transferred electronically – in a format agreed between Statistics Austria and the relevant operator/owner of the register/administrative data (LFRZ or the provincial governments of Burgenland, Carinthia and Vienna) – and then further processed by Statistics Austria.

The data collected from the other federal provinces by means of a survey form is checked, corrected – if necessary – through direct contact with the respondent and included in the analysis.

2.2.2 Coding

The use of data from the viticulture cadastres provides detailed information about grape varieties that goes beyond the characteristics and level of detail required for the analysis based on national/international legislation. In order to be able to fully represent the areas as a whole, all characteristics are grouped in an initial step and assigned in bridge tables to the relevant categories in the analysis program so that the data can subsequently be processed automatically.

There is no coding for the survey forms from the primary statistical survey.

2.2.3 Editing and verification of data sources used

The winegrowing laws of the relevant provincial governments form the legal basis for the viticulture cadastre. The management of the viticulture cadastre is the responsibility of the regional administrative authorities (or in the case of Styria, the Provincial Chamber of Agriculture) as part of the administration of the province. A complete survey of all areas under vine is stipulated by the statutory requirements.

In the course of transferring the data from the viticulture cadastres and from the central wine database of the BMLFUW, a number of checks are performed, e.g. correctness of the LFBIS holding number by comparison with the Agriculture and Forestry Register (LFR) of Statistics Austria. It emerged from this that there had been some mistakes with the LFBIS holding number (e.g. reversed digits, incorrect verification numbers and incorrect or missing holding numbers). Most of these errors were corrected by research in the LFR. Data records with LFBIS numbers that could not be verified were not included in the analysis.

Subsequently, implausible values were found in the data taken from the viticulture cadastres (e.g. date of planting 2020 or planting area greater than area of land), which were then corrected with the help of the relevant personnel in the offices managing the viticulture cadastres.

The primary statistical data collected in the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine was subjected to a plausibility check at micro level. The values stated were checked for their plausibility (e.g. age, planting area greater than land area) and – where necessary – data from the last survey was also used for comparison.

Overall, the plausibility check came up with problems in fewer than 5% of the data records.

The AMA data was used as a further data source for checking the plausibility of the collected data. Although this data differs in terms of the different objectives and definitions of the data found here (e.g. AMA additionally collects data on cleared areas), it can still be used as a guideline value in the plausibility check.
2.2.4 Compilation of the final data set, (other) models and statistical estimation techniques used

The data from the various viticulture cadastres include numerous characteristics with certain features and are more than are required for the purposes of analysis. In order to achieve a complete representation of the areas according to the various analysis criteria, it was necessary to merge these items for some of the characteristics in the transferred data.

The characteristic "variety" includes a large number of different items because there are different local names in the various federal provinces for many common grape varieties. These were assigned in correspondence tables to the relevant standard grape varieties displayed in the analyses.

For determining the age of the vineyard, the year of planting was transferred as a date value and therefore has to be assigned to an age category that can be represented for the analysis.

Across all federal provinces individual area data from the viticulture cadastres was assigned – in accordance with the business principle – to the federal province in which the place of business of the respondent is situated.

After completion of these checks and tasks, an authentic body of data was available from which the results tables were created by means of aggregation.

2.2.5 Other quality assurance measures

A set of instructions for completing the form was sent out to the respondents at the same time as the survey documents (see also 2.1.7 Survey questionnaire).

2.3 Publication (accessibility)

2.3.1 Final results

Only final results are published.

The results are prepared and published in conformity with EU Council Regulation (EEC) No. 357/79 on statistical surveys of areas under vines and in accordance with the Federal Statistics Act as last amended.

2.3.2 Revisions

No revisions are planned.

2.3.3 Publication media

Results appearing in national publications

The results of the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine are published in the following media by Statistics Austria:

- **Press information**
  
  The most important results of the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine were first published nationally in the form of a press release. The press release was made available on the Internet free of charge.

- **Summary report**

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8) The areas are not assigned to the individual municipalities in accordance with their actual location; instead they are shown in the municipality where the farmer has his/her place of business or residence. This method has led to a corresponding transfer of areas between the relevant municipalities/political districts and, in individual cases, between federal provinces.
A summary report with text and tables was published. Text analyses of the results in comparison with the last full survey in 1999 and graphics supplement this publication.

The summary report is available on the Internet free of charge as a PDF file.

- **Standard publication** "Winegrowing in Austria 2009"

The results of the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine are discussed and analysed here in detail. The methodology and implementation, results and comparison tables (including graphics to assist with the explanation) are described in the text section. The results are shown in detail in the table section.

The publication is available free of charge on the Internet as a PDF file; the corresponding tables can be purchased in electronic form (as an Excel file) for a charge to cover costs.

- **Statistical News** (Statistische Nachrichten – summary available in English) Standard publication: Agricultural Statistics 2009

- **Statistical Yearbook of Austria** (Statistisches Jahrbuch Österreichs – available in German and English)

  These publications, which include a CD-ROM, can be purchased for a charge to cover costs. The data can be downloaded as a PDF file from the Internet free of charge.

- **Internet**

  On the [Statistics Austria website](#)

- **ISIS / SuperSTAR** database

In addition, results are published in the following national media:

- **Green Report** of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management


**Results are published at EU level in the following media:**

- In the "Statistics in focus" booklets

- Pocketbook: Agriculture – Main statistics

- Eurostat – NewCronos database

**2.3.4 Treatment of confidential data**

The results are published in accordance with the confidentiality provisions set out in the [Federal Statistics Act 2000](#) as last amended.

**3. Quality**

**3.1 Relevance**

The Basic Survey of Areas under Vine is conducted on the basis of EU legislation and the associated national regulation. The list of characteristics is established in Eurostat working groups in the presence of the GD Agri and/or agreed in accordance with current requirements (Common Agricultural Policy - CAP). At national level the list of characteristics is adapted to national requirements in various working party meetings, including with the BMLFUW and representatives of the federal provinces and/or relevant experts.

The Basic Survey of Areas under Vine meets the requirements of the EU in their entirety.
National relevance:
- Information about the structure of the Austrian winegrowing sector and therefore the basic data for deciding on measures relating to market policy and funding.
- Provision of data for further calculations relating to supply balance sheets and the Economic Accounts for Agriculture as well as the provision of updated master data for the maintenance of the Agricultural and Forestry Register.

3.2 Accuracy

3.2.1 Non-sampling effects

3.2.1.1 Quality of data sources used
The data from the viticulture cadastres is based on provincial winegrowing legislation implemented by the cadastre offices (regional administrative authorities). They are responsible for the management and administration of the viticulture cadastres. Quality assurance for the data in the viticulture cadastres is performed on an ongoing basis by the relevant personnel in the cadastre offices. Each notification is checked for plausibility before entry. Furthermore, a check for completeness is made by means of the annual survey of master data for each individual vineyard owner. Because of the legal obligation to give (correct and complete) information to the viticulture cadastres, it can be assumed that the data material is of a satisfactory quality.

The input of data into the viticulture cadastre and therefore into the wine database of the BMLFUW is performed on a daily basis in Lower Austria and Styria. In Burgenland and Vienna the data is updated once a year in the wine database of the BMLFUW on 31 July, the end of the wine year. Up-to-date data is available at the cadastre offices.

The Computing and Technology Centre for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (LFRZ) in its role as the IT service centre of the BMLFUW manages the wine database and the data is regularly backed up in line with the security policy of the LFRZ.

The data transferred from the relevant viticulture cadastres and the central wine database of the BMLFUW was correspondingly processed and synchronised with the register data of Statistics Austria. Any discrepancies and ambiguities were recorded and correspondingly corrected when the authentic database was created (see point 2.2.3). Subsequently, Statistics Austria contacts the cadastre offices and communicates any discrepancies, emphasising the importance of quality. The corresponding corrections are then to be made by the cadastre offices and are therefore outside the sphere of competence of Statistics Austria (e.g. implausible data in terms of year of planting or planting area greater than total area).

3.2.1.2 Coverage (misclassifications, undercoverage/overcoverage)
Not relevant as the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine is a full survey.

3.2.1.3 Missing responses (unit non-response, item non-response)
The only missing responses were from units in Upper Austria, Salzburg, Tyrol and Vorarlberg surveyed using primary statistical methods.

Making contact with respondents
In terms of the 82 holdings that were surveyed using primary statistical methods, there were no problems relating to the addressing and sending out of correspondence.

9) The Austrian Register of Vineyards was inspected by the European Commission (Dept. VI/G4) in the period from 18-22.09.1995 and 1-2.7.1996 and found to be satisfactory (report: Zl.68.420/06-VIB8a/97). This meant the first basic survey in 1999 (in accordance with the then Council Regulation 357/79) could be conducted on the basis of the Register of Vineyards and the holding cadastre.
Unit non-response

The response quota for the 82 holdings was 100%. Of these, 64 holdings gave information regarding winegrowing, whereas the other 18 holdings sent in a blank return stating the corresponding reason for the blank return.

Item non-response

The missing answers mainly concerned details about the area breakdown of the grape varieties. These missing answers were clarified by means of telephone communication with the farmers.

3.2.1.4 Measurement errors (entry errors)

The data entry errors that were made by respondents in isolated cases (e.g. white wine area stated, but red grapes stated in the area use details) were able to be adjusted during the plausibility checks and by telephone communication.

3.3 Timeliness and punctuality

The reporting date for the survey was 31 July 2009. In line with national legislation the respondents had to enter their data in the survey documents completely and to the best of their knowledge and return them to Statistics Austria within four weeks of the reporting date. Apart from one or two cases where telephone reminders were required, the documents arrived on time at Statistics Austria.

The cadastre offices had to send the required data to Statistics Austria by 31 August 2009.

The results were transferred to Eurostat and published at national level within the statutory time limit of 15 months after the reporting date.

3.4 Comparability

3.4.1 Comparability over time

The Basic Survey of Areas under Vine 2009 was conducted for the second time in 2009 (first conducted in 1999) as an analysis of the viticulture cadastres and is therefore directly comparable with the previous survey. The data that had been collected up to 1992 using primary statistical methods is comparable only to a limited extent as there had been various changes in the past, e.g. in terms of the survey minimum thresholds.

3.4.2 Comparability over region

Data from the Basic Survey of Areas under Vine can be compared internationally as of the 1992 survey. In view of the entry of Austria into the European Union in 1995, various modifications were made to the survey programme in the last primary statistical survey in 1992 to comply with the relevant Council Regulation. After entry in 1995, the surveys have been conducted in accordance with the provisions of the community regulations.

The data can be compared regionally in that the traditional winegrowing federal provinces of Burgenland, Lower Austria, Styria and Vienna have issued winegrowing laws with identical objectives. The viticulture cadastres, which have their basis in this legislation, and the subsequent analyses, are therefore directly comparable with each other. The same applies to the winegrowing data for Carinthia. The other federal provinces are also comparable with each other in that they were surveyed using primary statistical methods (standard survey forms).
3.4.3 Comparability over other domains

The data was also analysed according to other criteria such as age of vineyard, areas under particular varieties of grape and size of holdings. This means that there is comparability based on these criteria over time and also at the geographic level.

3.5 Coherence

Data regarding areas under vine and viticulture nurseries is also collected in other surveys, e.g. the Farm Structure Survey and Wine Harvest.

However, because of their different objectives and definitions, the results from these surveys are only partly comparable with the current survey (e.g. in the Wine Harvest only the cropping area under vine is surveyed).

Winegrowing areas are also surveyed in the IACS managed by the AMA. However, because of their different objectives and definitions, these are not directly comparable with the areas in the current survey although the AMA data is used for checking the plausibility of the collected data.

4. Outlook

Production-related aspects:

The effects of the 2013 CAP reform cannot currently be foreseen, but would affect all member states.

The 2009 amendment of the national Wine Act specified that from 2015 or 2018 – depending on the decision over the phasing out of the EU-wide system of administration of legislation governing planting in accordance with the CMO (Common Market Organisation) for Wine – responsibility for the viticulture cadastres in terms of legislation and enforcement would pass to the federal government and the BKI (Federal Winery Inspectorate) would be the responsible body.

Content-related aspects.

A new EU regulation governing permanent crops (fruit enterprises and vineyards) is currently under discussion and is due to come into force at the beginning of 2012 at the latest. According to this new EU regulation, the surveys should be conducted every 5 years in future.

Publication-related aspects:

None

List of abbreviations

AMA Agrarmarkt Austria
AS Farm Structure Survey (FSS)
BKI Federal Winery Inspectorate
BMLFUW Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (also known as the Ministry of Life).
CAP Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union
CMO Common Market Organisation
DB Database
DG Agri The European Commission’s Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development is responsible for agricultural policy and policy for developing rural areas. It deals with all aspects of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), including market measures, rural development policy, financial matters and international relations relating
to agriculture.

EAA  Economic Accounts for Agriculture
Eurostat  Statistical Office of the European Communities
IACS  The Integrated Administration and Control System forms the legal basis in the EU for administering the processing of funding. All area and livestock aid schemes are integrated in this system. In addition to provisions for the filing of applications and amendment options, it also contains the procedures for automatic computer checks, on-the-spot inspections and sanctions.
ISIS  Integrated Statistical Information System
LFBIS  The Information System for Agricultural and Forestry Holdings (LFBIS) enables the federal government to consolidate data on individual holdings (data from holdings statistics and agricultural funding). The LFBIS master file is maintained by Statistics Austria, while the Computing and Technology Centre for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (LFRZ) is responsible for technical support.
LFR  Agriculture and Forestry Register
LFRZ  Computing and Technology Centre for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (www.lfrz.at). This organisation is an independent provider of a wide range of IT services, including the management of the LFBIS database and the central wine database for the BMLFUW. The LFRZ is also responsible for the data collected by AMA in the course of administering funding (IACS data).
LKÖ  Austrian Chamber of Agriculture
NA  National Accounts
NUTS  Statistical classification system for territorial units "Nomenclature des unités territoriales statistiques"
STAT  Statistics Austria
SuperSTAR  IT tool for the management, evaluation and analysis of data, specially developed for very large data volumes.

Annexes

Links to the following sub-documents are contained in this standard documentation:

Survey form
Information sheet
Accompanying letter